and labour involved in collecting the same will not be commensurate with the results likely to be achieved.

Call to monitor effect of duty concession on production of drugs

2075. SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM:

SHRI MOHD. KHALEELUR RAHMAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question 674 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 5th September, 1991 and state:

(a) what are the details of cases where bulk drugs and intermediates duty concessions are proving to be a stumbling block in the establishment of basic production;

(b) how many requests for duty hike has been received and what is the position of each;

(c) when each request was received and what are the details of drugs involved in each case;

(d) whether Government have set up any cell to monitor the effect of duty concession; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, whether Government are considering any such proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (c) In situations where custom duty on bulk drug is less than the duty on its intermediates may not be conducive to production of bulk drugs from more basic stages. Such duty rationalisation on bulk drugs, drug intermediates and finished medicines is an on going process. Request for hike or reduction in duty keep on coming from individual companies or industry associations which are examined in this department and final decisions in this regard are taken by department of Revenue. Some requests for duty hike on intermediate have been received which are under examination and consideration. After examination, if found necessary the same will be recommended to Department of Revenue.

(d) and (e) The question of constituting a cell to monitor the effect of duty concession is still under examination.

Reduction in the prices of Semi synthetic Pencillin formulations

2076. SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM:

SHRI MOHD. KHALEELUR RAHMAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 658 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 5th September, 1991 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have failed to reduce the prices of semi synthetic pencillin formulations;

(b) when were the prices of semi synthetic pencillin drugs reduced during 1990 and 1991 and when were prices of formulations linked to such prices of semi synthetic pencillines reduced;

(c) whether it is a fact that all semi synthetic pencillin drugs were sold at prices much below the notified prices after August, 1987;

(d) if so, why this fact was ignored while pricing formulations based on these drugs; and

(e) what steps are being taken to investigate the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) No, Sir. As already stated in reply to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 658 answered on 5th September, 1991, there was some delay in notifying the prices of formulations based on Ampicillin Trihydrate/Anhydrate;